

KEEPING THE L_ST OF THE PAST FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

1999

VISALIA HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

It is time to let members and friends of Visalia Heritage know about our current projects and plans.

LIBRARY

We have been working with Tulare County Librarian Brian Lewis in an effort to restore the old library, built in 1932. Our plan is to have the building used for a children's library. We contacted the County engineer and structural engineer Gerard Homer, to evaluate the condition of the building. Mr. Homer has confirmed that the building is structurally sound. We hope to work with the Library Foundation, led by Andy Balerud, to see the old library put to better use, for all to enjoy.

ANNIE MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship of \$500 was awarded to a C.O.S. student who will pursue a teaching career. FOX THEATER

Visalia Heritage gave \$1,000 to the Friends of the Fox for the restoration of the theater. **AFGHANS**

Gladwyn Burris thanks Link's Men's Wear and Schelling's Men's & Women's Wear for selling the Visalia afghans for us, with no renumeration. We have sold over 1,400. The proceeds will go toward restoration of the old library.

BOOKS

Sheila Caskey Holder thanks Midtown News and Togni Branch for selling our book, "Visalia's Heritage." We have sold over 2,300 books and there are 200 left.

MOONEY GROVE ARBORS

The county has placed a plaque by arbors 14 & 15, recognizing Visalia Heritage for restoring both arbors with concrete floor, new roofs and barbecue.

ANNIE MITCHELL HISTORY ROOMS

Visalia Heritage remodeled and enlarged this area of the library. We have purchased a copy machine, I.B.M. typewriter, 3 legal size file cabinets and other supplies. Sheila Holder has been working hard filing Annie Mitchell's research material. CHAPEL

The restored cemetery chapel was used recently for the service of Carl Maddox Ferguson, one of Visalia Heritage's charter members. We offer our sympathy to his wife and family.

FIREHOUSE PLAQUE

Leroy Sandri has worked with the city for several years, to have the original marble firehouse plaque installed in the approximate location of Visalia's first firehouse. Drive by and see the newly installed plaque on Visalia Convention Center near Church and Acequia.

PICTORIAL HISTORY

Ron Burris, Terry Ommen, Alan George and Jane Nash are working on a pictorial history book of Visalia from 1854 to 1954. If you have any pictures you would be willing to loan, please call Ron at 732-3734.

Thank you for your continued support. We welcome you to attend our meetings, held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 P.M. (Call 732-3734 for place of meetings.)